United Nations E/C.2/2017/2

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
25 August 2016
English
Original: English/French

Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations
2017 regular session
30 January-8 February and 21 February 2017

Quadrennial reports for the period 2012-2015 submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council through the Secretary-General pursuant to Council resolution 1996/31*

Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum

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* Reports submitted by non-governmental organizations are issued without formal editing.

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1. Abiodun Adebayo Welfare Foundation

Special, 2012

Introduction

The Abiodun Adebayo Welfare Foundation (AAWF) was established to bring development to people at the grass roots level in Africa.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Foundation is chiefly concerned with reducing poverty, through empowering widows, providing educational opportunities for underprivileged children, promoting Millennium development, climate change, youth empowerment programs, agro-allied services and more.

Significant changes in the organization

The Foundation opened a branch in Ghana in April 2015 to reach out to neighbouring African states and the number of volunteer members increased during the reporting period. The Foundation also conducted a review of its constitution and by-laws with a view to reflecting changes in society, technology and communication.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Foundation built an information and communication technology (ICT) centre to help the youth. It is committed to supporting gender equality in nation-building processes and empowering women with vocational skills, such as sewing. The Foundation supported other African countries in using preventive measures in the fight against malaria parasites.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Representatives of the AAWF participated in the following meetings:

- The 2014 United Nations Climate Summit, New York, 23 September 2014;
- Special Session of the General Assembly on the follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD Beyond 2014), New York, 22 September 2014;
- Sustainable Energy for All Forum, New York, 18-21 May 2015.

Cooperation with United Nations system entities

No cooperation was specified.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The Foundation has undertaken the following initiatives to support the MDGS: promoted the importance of good accessible water; educated youth on the need to refrain from using hard drugs; hosted various advocacy programmes on agricultural production in rural communities.

2. African Agency for Integrated Development

Special, 2012

Introduction

The African Agency for Integrated Development (AAID) is an international NGO with headquarters in Kampala, Uganda. It operates through its network of organizations like the G4Alliance and the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC), among others.

Aims and purposes of the organization

It aims to transform the living conditions of communities by disseminating information, raising awareness and implementing programmes on primary and general health, AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases. It promotes poverty eradication strategies, social and economic welfare, management of natural resources with emphasis on increased participation of women in Millennium development, and advocating for human rights.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

AAID has reported on the activities of the armed security forces of Ukraine. At its UN70 celebrations in Uganda on 24 October 2015, AAID informed participants about the United Nations global activities connected to peace and security, development, human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

AAID has joined online global discussions like those for the World Health Organization (WHO) Global Health Sector Strategy on HIV for 2016-2021. As a member of the G4Alliance, AAID participated at a WHO planning meeting focused on the implementation of the World Health Assembly (WHA) resolution on surgery and anaesthesia.

Cooperation with United Nations system entities

AAID has encouraged G4Alliance to prepare official calls to action including to support non-state actor engagement with the World Health Organization (WHO).

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

AAID wrote a proposal for the inclusion of surgical and anaesthesia care indicators as part of the post 2015 Millennium Development Goals (SDGs).

3. African Aid Organization

Special, 2008

Introduction

African Aid Organization (AFAID) is devoted to providing education, nutrition, support services and care to children infected with, or affected by HIV/AIDS, and their families, in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Aims and purposes of the organization

AFAID's aim is to increase youth commitment and strategies to avoid or reduce behaviours that put them at risk of HIV/AIDS as well as other sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) through a series of theatrical presentation workshops, outreach sessions, education, documentary films and "AFAID HIV/AIDS Clubs". AFAID also provides means to minimize the effects of extreme poverty, and actively works to educate children to help them understand that they are part of the solution.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

AFAID is guided by a fundamental commitment to human rights and the alleviation of human suffering. It has successfully carried out programmes in behavioural change and education for children and young people and their families, as well as programmes that support poverty reduction and nutrition for the neediest families, particularly vulnerable and young single mothers. It empowers young people to make responsible decisions about their sexual activities through AIDS Awareness Clubs in middle and high schools. It provides training and workshops to help Club members develop better communication skills to increase their capacity to effectively spread the HIV prevention message to all their peers and the community.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

During the reporting period, AFAID participated in sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), the Sixth Session of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing, and the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS+10).

Cooperation with United Nations system entities

No cooperation was specified.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

In support of the MDGs, AFAID has provided nutritional advice and food to 2,713 children and needy families; fought HIV/AIDS and extreme poverty through targeted programmes and initiatives; provided care to pregnant and nursing mothers; and commemorated the World AIDS Day annually on 1 December.

4. African Centre for Community and Development

Special, 2012

Introduction

The African Centre for Community and Development (ACCD) collects and analyzes data useful in the design and implementation of projects and programmes for development in Africa and the world.

Aims and purposes of the organization

ACCD supports disadvantaged and underprivileged people in Africa, especially the Youth, and promotes inter-cultural dialogue and exchange through education, capacity building, training, arts, social capital mobilisation, enterprises and agriculture, among other activities.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization disseminates news feeds about the work of the United Nations. It is engaged in agriculture, conservation and educational activities to improve well-being, health, food security and conservation of species through the Green Cradle project. The organization has produced and published over 630 videos on diverse topics including agriculture, women's issues, the environment, project management, arts, international development, waste management, pollution, culture, and livestock rearing, among others.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

ACCD presented a statement at the 57th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW 57) titled "Factors affecting the equal sharing of responsibilities between women and men in sub-Saharan Africa and some policy proposals".

Cooperation with United Nations system entities

No cooperation was specified.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The organization facilitated local events in Cameroon including celebration of the World AIDS Day and Ozone Layer Day. It has published over 630 videos on diverse aspects of Millennium development for replication. It is engaged in poultry, snail, pig and vegetable farming to fight hunger and improve food security, as well as environmental protection and initiatives to empower women.

5. Al-Haq

Special, 2000

Introduction

Al-Haq was established in 1979 to protect and promote human rights and the rule of law in the State of Palestine and is based in Ramallah, West Bank.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Al-Haq's vision is to see the rule of law and standards of international human rights and humanitarian law implemented and adhered to so that Palestinians can enjoy equal treatment with respect to their dignity and with the full realisation of their right to self-determination. Al-Haq works towards accountability for perpetrators of international human rights and humanitarian law violations in the State of Palestine.

Significant changes in the organization

Al-Haq's work in 2015 was focussed on ensuring that the Palestinian Authority complies with the provisions of international law, particularly the multilateral agreements and conventions recently ratified by the State of Palestine.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Al-Haq continues to pursue universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for Palestinians.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Al-Haq has participated in all Human Rights Council (HRC) sessions from 2012-2015, including attending side-events, engaging in general debates, submitting written statements, among other activities. It attended meetings with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories. The organization has regular meetings with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in the State of Palestine and in Geneva and organised a meeting for Palestinian civil society organizations (CSOs) with the High Commissioner in March 2015. Al-Haq participated in Israel's review under the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) in 2012 and 2014.

Cooperation with United Nations system entities

In 2015 Al-Haq made submissions to the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Health, the Special Rapporteur on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967 and the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

Al-Haq's work encompasses eradicating poverty and hunger, achieving universal primary education, reducing child mortality, promoting gender equality, improving maternal health and ensuring environmental sustainability.

6. All India Shah Behram Baug Society for Scientific and Educational Research

Special, 2004

Introduction

The All India Shah Behram Baug Society (for Scientific and Educational Research) is a scientific and education research centre based in Mumbai, India.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The society aims to: promote scientific and educational objectives; promote the Millennium Development Goals, especially with regard to water conservation and purification technologies; promote peace education; provide higher educational facilities for economic sustainability; provide facilities for social and economic betterment; and provide low cost health care technologies to benefit rural areas.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization created the Zoroastrian College which focuses on peace education and spirituality, and economic and social development and environmental studies. It is engaged in activities celebrating United Nations international days related to the MDGS, and conducted four annual World Congresses of Science and Spirituality/Medicine between January 2012 and February 2015.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization attended the United Nations High Level Forum on The Culture of Peace in New York, 11-12 September 2014.

Cooperation with United Nations system entities

During the reporting period, the Society contributed to the research on AIDS conducted by the World Health Organization (WHO) and cooperated with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Chair for Peace at the Maharashtra Academy of Engineering & Educational Research Maharashtra Institute of Technology (MAEER MIT) in Pune, India.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The organization developed a water purification technology model at the Zoroastrian College in Mumbai, India, to treat biological, chemical and nuclear contaminated water.

7. Arab Penal Reform Organization

Special, 2012

Introduction

The Arab Penal Reform Organization (APRO) has headquarters in Cairo, focusing on penal reform in the Arab region.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The APRO seeks to: improve criminal laws in order to be compatible with international treaties and improve prison conditions and prevent torture; train lawyers and journalists to create a general climate that stands up to human rights violations; cooperate with the United Nations entities to prevent human rights violations; and cooperate with governments to improve human rights conditions.

Significant changes in the organization

APRO is in the process of establishing a permanent office in Geneva.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

In 2014 APRO made a submission on the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of the Human Rights Council (HRC) about the condition of prisons and places of detention in Egypt, particularly concerning torture. APRO also submitted a joint UPR report with 19 Egyptian organizations in 2014 that reviewed the condition of human rights situation in Egypt in general, citing several laws that need to be modified, as well as many practices that need to be rectified within the framework of decent treatment of prisoners.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

APRO participated in the 20th-23rd sessions of the UPR.

Cooperation with United Nations system entities

In 2015 the organization signed a contract with the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

APRO organized eight workshops following the 2014 UPR report of Egypt to introduce legislative amendments that are compatible with international obligations and the recommendations of the session. APRO then submitted specific legislative amendments to the Penal Code, Procedural Law, Emergency Law, Prisons Law,

Police Law, Military Law and the Forensic Medical Agency law. These modifications were submitted to the Shura Council, the Prime Minister and the National Council for Human Rights for their consideration. During the reporting period, APRO organized, in cooperation with the Egyptian Bar Association, 48 training courses for lawyers on how to use international mechanisms to provide legal assistance for victims and filed 400 lawsuits on behalf of torture victims in places of detention, collecting EGP15 million (about $2 million) from the Ministry of the Interior in favour of the victims. APRO also issued press releases and statements against incidents of human rights violations, particularly against jailed persons.

8. Asabe Shehu Yar' Adua Foundation

Special, 2012

Introduction

The Asabe Shehu Yar'Adua Foundation (ASYARF) focuses on assisting women, children and youth in 36 states in Nigeria. It also works in New York, Washington, Connecticut and Texas, where it is registered.

Aims and purposes of the organization

ASYARF aims to provide clean water to local communities; combat child abuse and injustice; promote human rights of women, children, youth and the disabled; protect the environment; fight corruption; reduce poverty; promote peaceful co-existence, humanitarian services, conflict resolution, good governance; provide electoral workshop training and sensitization on voters rights; and combat and research HIV/AIDS.

Significant changes in the organization

ASYARF has an additional 5,000 Members and five new funding partners.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

ASYARF has organized annual events in observance of United Nations International Days and participated in a "Kick out Malaria Campaign" in Lagos State in Nigeria.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

ASYARF has participated in the following meetings, among others:

- High-level Meeting on the review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS+10), New York, 15-16 December 2015;
- 49th session of the Commission on Population and Development (CPD49), New York, 3 November 2015;
- Annual sessions of the Commission for Social Development (CSocD53);
- Annual sessions of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in New York;

- Annual sessions of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in New York;
- High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, 3-4 October 2013;
- Annual sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women.

Cooperation with United Nations system entities

ASYARF submitted best practice cases that link anti-corruption measures with the realization and protection of human rights, October 2015. It participated in the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) "I am a woman" campaign.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

ASYARF donated vitamin supplements to single and lactating mothers of the Gora Community in Kaduna State, Nigeria in May 2015. It observed the World Day against Child Labour annually to celebrate and campaign against child labour in rural and urban communities in Nigeria. It organized a medical check-up programme for women in the Amai Community in Kwale, Delta State in April 2015. ASYARF organized a Women's Empowerment Skill programme to train and empower rural/Indigenous women and girls from 2013-2014 in Nigeria, and conducted research, awareness and sensitization campaign to combat and reduce the rate of HIV in the Lafia Local Government Area of Nassarawa State in 2014.

9. Association des jeunes pour l'agriculture du Mali

Special: 2012

Introduction

Association des jeunes pour l'agriculture du Mali (ASJAM) works to reduce hunger and poverty and to promote sustainable development.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aim of the organization is to contribute to the promotion of agricultural initiatives, promote the improvement of garbage collection in urban areas, promote drinking water and sanitation, and provide an education to girls and boys in rural areas.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Among its main activities, ASJAM has worked to increase agricultural production with a view to reducing poverty and improving child education in Mali.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The Association submitted a written statement to the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council in July 2013. It also participated in, inter alia, briefings organized by the United Nations Department of Public Information in New York from January to March 2012.

Cooperation with United Nations system entities

In April 2012, ASJAM held a meeting with the United Nations Information Centre in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, with the aim of strengthening cooperation between the Centre and NGOs, and to consider a proposal on organizing a common training seminar. ASJAM has also collaborated with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in Bamako in various areas.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

ASJAM contributed to poverty reduction in Mali in the rural commune of Boile by encouraging increased cultivation of groundnuts and beans.

10. Association pour l'intégration et le développement durable au Burundi

Special, 2012

Introduction

The Association pour l'Intégration et le Développement Durable au Burundi (AIDB) works at the national level for indigenous peoples.

Aims and purposes of the organization

AIDB aims to protect and promote the human rights of the indigenous Batwa populations in Burundi.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

AIDB participates in the sessions of the treaty body system of the United Nations. It contributed to the consultations on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It also incorporated the needs of indigenous peoples in the Global Environment Facility (GEF) programmes and was part of the global and African caucuses that highlighted the need for food security for indigenous peoples. It works on climate change adaptation, mitigation, capacity-building and capacity transfer, including in collaboration with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) at the Paris Climate Conference, tapping into traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples to better manage climate change.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

In 2012 AIDB attended the 11th session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (PFII) and presented individual and joint statements on respect for the economic, social, cultural, political and civil rights of the indigenous Batwa peoples in Burundi. AIDB attended the 23rd session of the Human Rights Council (HRC) for the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of Burundi and the preparatory meetings for and the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples in 2014. In 2015 AIDB attended the 56th session of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the 21st Conference of the Parties (COP21) to the UNFCCC in Paris.

Cooperation with United Nations system entities

AIDB has presented the alternative Universal Periodic Review (UPR) report on the human rights situation of the Indigenous peoples in Burundi. It also has presented written statements to the High-level Segment of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) during this period. It is a member of the Global Compact and the Global Risk Forum (GRF) National Steering Committee.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

AIDB initiatives focused on the education, health and land rights of the indigenous Batwa people in Burundi. These include sensitizing the parents about HIV/AIDS, implementing programmes for life expectancy and HIV/AIDS prevention, and promoting farming activities.

11. Association tunisienne des droits de l'enfant

Special: 2000

Introduction

From 2012 to 2015, the Association tunisienne des droits de l'enfant (ATUDE), founded to combat violence against children, worked with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in Tunisia to help child refugees from Libya.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aim of the Association is to promote the rights of the child. It works to promote laws that strengthen the rights of the child and bolster government efforts to facilitate the social reintegration of children in situations of armed conflict as well as the reintegration of delinquent youth

Significant changes in the organization

While the revolution of 14 January 2011 disrupted the Association's activity, it was nonetheless able to continue its work with the help of international organizations.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

In collaboration with UNICEF-Tunisia, ATUDE launched a project in 2014-2015 to install an operational emergency assistance device in order to adequately

respond to the emergency needs of refugee children. With the support of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and Defence for Children International, it participated in the implementation of a project entitled "Initiative to create child-friendly school environments".

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The post-revolutionary period was financially very difficult. Therefore, the Association participated only in meetings organized in Tunisia by United Nations agencies, in particular UNICEF and OHCHR.

Cooperation with United Nations system entities

ATUDE regularly participates in planning and implementing UNICEF projects in Tunisia.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The main objective of the Association is to combat violence against children and sexual violence against girls, which also covers the right to education. ATUDE has also distributed food and supplies to children in violence-affected schools.

12. Charitable Institute for Protecting Social Victims

Special, 2004

Introduction

The Charitable Institute for Protecting Social Victims believes that having a healthy and quality life is a right and a prerequisite for the realization of the Millennium Development Goals.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Institute was created for the realization of the social rights of vulnerable groups. It uses 24 hour shelters, recreational therapy, and technical and vocational training to promote healthy quality of life for the homeless, those suffering from infectious diseases, mental or psychological illness, street children, the disabled, women at risk, addicted drug users and the elderly.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Institute has submitted written and oral statements to the Human Rights Council (HRC); written and oral statements at the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) mechanism of the HRC; and conducted negotiations on the rights of people with mental disorders and disabilities.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

During this period, the organization participated at the 19th, 21st, 22nd, 24th, 25th, 27th and 28th sessions of the HRC.

Cooperation with United Nations system entities

The Institute has cooperated with several United Nations entities, including: on the UPR mechanism by submitting reports on the human rights situation in the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in 2014; and with the communication department of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) on a conference entitled, "The New Delhi Declaration on Inclusive ICTs for Persons with Disabilities".

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

In support of the MDGs, the Institute provided services to the homeless, social victims and street children; prepared agricultural lands and greenhouses for patients and those facing barriers to employment because of mental illness and stigma; and conducted education courses on combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases for individuals and their families, under the supervision of a specialized medical team, among other things.

13. Climate Action Network Association

Special, 2012

Introduction

Climate Action Network (CAN) is a network of over 950 non-governmental organizations committed to combating harmful activities that harm the climate.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The vision of CAN to protect global climate in a manner that promotes equity and social justice between peoples, promote sustainable development of all communities, and protect the global environment. CAN's mission is to support and empower civil society organizations to influence the design and development of an effective global strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and ensure its implementation at international, national and local levels to promote equity and sustainable development.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

CAN has actively participated in the international climate change negotiations and all other relevant fora, including the negotiations around the Millennium Development Goals and other United Nations processes. It has contributed to the

establishment of global, regional, national and local climate change agendas by mobilizing a genuinely inclusive civil society process at all levels.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

CAN members were engaged in a range of United Nations fora including on the Post-2015 Millennium Development Agenda, the United Nations Climate Summit in 2014, and the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties to the 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), COP 21.

Cooperation with United Nations system entities

No cooperation was specified.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

No activities were specified.

14. Concile mondial de congrès diplomatiques des aumoniers pour la paix universelle des droits humains et juridiques

Special, 2012

Introduction

Concile Mondial de Congres Diplomatiques des Aumoniers pour la Paix Universelle des Droits Humains et Juridiques is part of a stakeholder association consisting of multiple civil society groups in the Caribbean, Eastern Europe, and more recently, Micronesia.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization aims to promote the rights and freedoms enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, promote reconciliation and universal peace through dialogue, and undertake research legal protection and defence of human rights and refugee rights.

Significant changes in the organization

The organization has moved its international headquarters to Paris, France in 2014.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

No contribution was specified.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization attended the 58th and 59th sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). In February 2014, the organization attended the 1st Preparatory Committee meeting for the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States at the United Nations in New York. It also attended the

Open Meeting of the Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) and the Global Counter-Terrorism Research Network on "Foreign Terrorist Fighters", 24 November, 2015.

Cooperation with United Nations system entities

The organization collaborates with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on finding solutions to global drug issues.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The organization works with its partners in microfinance and enterprise development to support environmental programmes and innovations with the purpose of developing a millennium economy. It conducts advocacy with human rights defender's networks and works on human rights for refugees. The organization has established a fund for global climate change projects. It also conducts activities in partnership with other NGOs, foundations and other institutions on various projects, including to establish primary and professional schools, installing drinking water tanks, establishing nutrition centres, rural clinics and childhood leisure centres, and promotes innovation programmes and youth exchange programmes.

15. Edmund Rice International

Special, 2012

Introduction

Edmund Rice International (ERI) is a faith-based NGO founded jointly and supported by the Roman Catholic Christian Brothers and the Presentation Brothers. The organization is present in over 30 countries.

Aims and purposes of the organization

ERI works at the international level to promote and protect the rights of children and young people, particularly with regard to education.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

ERI conducted six two-week training courses on human rights and advocacy in conjunction with the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) sessions of the Human Rights Council (HRC) and made presentations with particular emphasis on participation in the various mechanisms of the HRC in several countries. It offers internships in Geneva, has developed and promoted an online course in human rights dealing with the United Nations and its various human rights mechanisms, supports a global network of schools and educational institutions, and facilitates an annual visit to the HRC by students from schools in the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland and teachers from Australian schools.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

In 2013 and 2015, ERI participated in several United Nations meetings, including: sessions of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues; the Commission on Population and Development; the Commission on the Status of Women; in the Open Working Group on Millennium Development Goals; and the preparations for the post-2015 development agenda.

Cooperation with United Nations system entities

ERI has made submissions for UPRs and to United Nations Treaty Bodies, including the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the HRC; and to United Nations Special Procedures, including the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Working Group on Arbitrary Detention and the Special Rapporteur on the Freedom of Religion or Belief. ERI has made several oral statements at sessions of the HRC, for example at the adoption of the UPR reports on India and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and under the agenda item, 'Matters requiring the attention of the Council' on Australia's treatment of asylum seekers.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

ERI conducts training workshops and has an online course entitled: 'Issues of Global Poverty and Development'.